

(November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1003 (September 1994).

§1961. Delegated Duties and Responsibilities

A. The advisory committee is authorized by the board to:

1. advise and assist the board in the ongoing evaluation of the occupational therapy licensing examination required by the board;

2. assist the board in examining the qualifications and credentials of and interviewing applicants for occupational therapy licensure and make recommendations thereon to the board;

3. provide advice and recommendations to the board respecting the modification, amendment, and supplementation of rules and regulations, standards, policies, and procedures respecting occupational therapy licensure and practice;

4. serve as a liaison between and among the board, licensed occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants, and occupational therapy professional associations;

5. receive reimbursement for attendance at board meetings and for other expenses when specifically authorized by the board; and

6. advise and assist the board in the review and approval of continuing professional education programs and licensee satisfaction of continuing professional education requirements for renewal of licensure, as prescribed by Subchapter H of these rules, including the authority and responsibility to:

a. evaluate organizations and entities providing or offering to provide continuing professional education programs for occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants and provide recommendations to the board with respect to the board's recognition and approval of such organizations and entities as sponsors of qualifying continuing professional education programs and activities pursuant to §1969 of these rules;

b. review documentation of continuing professional education by occupational therapist and occupational therapy assistants, verify the accuracy of such documentation, and evaluation of and make recommendations to the board with respect to whether programs and activities evidenced by applicants for renewal of licensure comply with and satisfy the standards for such programs and activities prescribed by these rules; and

c. request and obtain from applicants for renewal of licensure such additional information as the advisory committee may deem necessary or appropriate to enable it to make the evaluations and provide the recommendations for which the committee is responsible.

B. In discharging the functions authorized under this section the advisory committee and the individual members thereof shall, when acting within the scope of such authority, be deemed agents of the board. All information obtained by

the advisory committee members pursuant to §1961.A.2 and 6 shall be considered confidential. Advisory committee members are prohibited from communicating, disclosing, or in any way releasing to anyone, other than the board, any information or documents obtained when acting as agents of the board without first obtaining written authorization of the board.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014 and R.S. 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 12:767 (November 1986), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1004 (September 1994).

Subchapter H. Continuing Professional Education

§1963. Scope of Subchapter

The rules of this subchapter provide standards for the continuing professional education requisite to the annual renewal of licensure as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant, as required by §§1947 and 1965 of these rules, and prescribe the procedures applicable to satisfaction and documentation of continuing professional education in connection with application for renewal of licensure.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3012(B) and R.S. 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1004 (September 1994).

§1965. Continuing Professional Education Requirement

A. Subject to the exceptions specified in §1979 of this subchapter, to be eligible for renewal of licensure for 1996 and thereafter, an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant shall, within each year during which he holds licensure, evidence, and document, upon forms supplied by the board, successful completion of not less than 15 contact hours, or 1.5 continuing education units (CEUs).

B. One CEU constitutes 10 hours of participation in an organized continuing professional education program approved by the board and meeting the standards prescribed in this subchapter; one continuing professional education hour is equal to one-tenth of a CEU. Fifteen hours, or 1.5 CEUs, is required to meet the standards prescribed by this subchapter.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3012(B) and R.S. 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1004 (September 1994).

§1967. Qualifying Continuing Professional Education Programs

A. To be acceptable as qualified continuing professional

education under these rules a program shall:

1. have significant and substantial intellectual or practical content dealing principally with matters germane and relevant to the practice of occupational therapy;
2. have preestablished written goals and objectives, with its primary objective being to maintain or increase the participant's competence in the practice of occupational therapy;
3. be presented by persons whose knowledge and/or professional experience is appropriate and sufficient to the subject matter of the presentation;
4. provide a system or method for verification of attendance or course completion; and
5. be a minimum of one continuous hour in length.

B. None of the following programs, seminars, or activities shall be deemed to qualify as acceptable CPE programs under these rules:

1. any program not meeting the standards prescribed by §1967.A;
2. independent study not approved or sponsored by the AOTA or the LOTA for the Independent Study Program;
3. any program, presentation, seminar, or course of instruction not providing the participant an opportunity to ask questions or seek clarification of specific matters presented;
4. teaching, training, or supervisory activities;
5. holding office in professional or governmental organizations, agencies, or committees;
6. participation in case conferences, informal presentations, or inservice activities;
7. giving or authorizing verbal or written presentations, seminars, articles, or grant applications.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3012(B) and R.S. 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1004 (September 1994).

§1969. Approval of Program Sponsors

A. Any program, course, seminar, workshop, or other activity meeting the standards prescribed by §1967.A sponsored or offered by the AOTA or the LOTA shall be presumptively deemed approved by the board for purposes of qualifying as an approved continuing professional education program under these rules.

B. Upon the recommendation of the advisory committee, the board may designate additional organizations and entities whose programs, courses, seminars, workshops, or other activities shall be deemed approved by the board for purposes of qualifying as an approved continuing professional education program under §1967.A.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3012(B) and R.S. 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1005 (September 1994).

§1971. Approval of Programs

A. A continuing professional education program sponsored by an organization or entity not deemed approved by the board pursuant to §1969.A may be preapproved by the board as a program qualifying and acceptable for satisfying continuing professional education requirements under this subchapter upon written request to the board therefor, upon a form supplied by the board, providing a complete description of the nature, location, date, content, and purpose of such program and such other information as the board or the advisory committee may request to establish the compliance of such program with the standards prescribed by §1967.A. Any such request for preapproval respecting a program which makes and collects a charge for attendance shall be accompanied by a nonrefundable processing fee of \$30.

B. Any such written request shall be referred by the board to the advisory committee for its recommendation. If the advisory committee's recommendation is against approval, the board shall give notice of such recommendation to the person or organization requesting approval and such person or organization may appeal the advisory committee's recommendation to the board by written request delivered to the board within 10 days of such notice. The board's decision with respect to approval of any such activity shall be final. Persons and organizations requesting preapproval of continuing professional education programs should allow not less than 60 days for such requests to be processed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3012(B) and R.S. 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1005 (September 1994).

§1973. Documentation Procedure

A. A form for annual documentation and certification of satisfaction of the continuing professional education requirements prescribed by these rules shall be mailed by the board to each occupational therapist and occupational therapy assistant subject to such requirements with the application for renewal of licensure form mailed by the board pursuant to §1947.B of these rules. Such form shall be completed and delivered to the board with the licensee's renewal application.

B. Any certification of continuing professional education not presumptively approved by the board pursuant to these rules, or preapproved by the board in writing, shall be referred to the advisory committee for its evaluation and recommendations pursuant to §1961.A.6.ii. If the advisory committee determines that a program or activity certified by an applicant for renewal in satisfaction of continuing professional education requirements does not qualify for recognition by the board or does not qualify for the number of CEUs claimed by

the applicant, the board shall give notice of such determination to the applicant for renewal and the applicant may appeal the advisory committee's recommendation to the board by written request delivered to the board within 10 days of such notice. The board's decision with respect to approval and recognition of any such program or activity shall be final.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3012(B) and R.S. 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1005 (September 1994).

§1975. Failure to Satisfy Continuing Professional Education Requirements

A. An applicant for renewal of licensure who fails to evidence satisfaction of the continuing professional education requirements prescribed by these rules shall be given written notice of such failure by the board. The license of the applicant shall remain in full force and effect for a period of 60 days following the mailing of such notice, following which it shall be deemed expired, unrenewed, and subject to revocation without further notice, unless the applicant shall have, within such 60 days furnished the board satisfactory evidence, by affidavit, that:

1. the applicant has satisfied the applicable continuing professional education requirements;
2. the applicant is exempt from such requirements pursuant to these rules; or
3. the applicant's failure to satisfy the continuing professional education requirements was occasioned by disability, illness, or other good cause as may be determined by the board.

B. The license of an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant whose license has expired by nonrenewal or has been revoked for failure to satisfy the continuing professional education requirements of these rules may be reinstated by the board upon written application to the board, accompanied by payment of a reinstatement fee, in addition to all other applicable fees and costs, of \$50, together with documentation and certification that:

1. the applicant has, during each year since the date on which the applicant's license lapsed, expired, or was revoked, completed 12 contact hours (1.2 CEUs) of qualifying continuing professional education and the following additional continuing professional education, as applicable:
 - a. if the application for reinstatement is made more than one year and less than three years following the date on which such license lapsed, expired, or was revoked, the applicant shall evidence completion of and additional six contact hours (0.6 CEU) of qualifying continuing professional education since the date on which the applicant's license lapsed, expired, or was revoked;
 - b. if the application for reinstatement is made more

than three years and less than five years following the date on which such license lapsed, expired, or was revoked, the applicant shall evidence completion of and additional eight contact hours (0.8 CEU) of qualifying continuing professional education within the 12 months period preceding application for reinstatement;

c. if the application for reinstatement is made more than five years following the date on which such license lapsed, expired, or was revoked, the applicant shall evidence completion of an additional 10 contact hours (1.0 CEU) of qualifying continuing professional education within the 12 months period preceding application for reinstatement; or

2. the applicant has, within one year prior to making application for reinstatement, taken and successfully passed the recertification examination of the AOTA.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3012(B) and R.S. 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1005 (September 1994), amended LR 24:1499 (August 1998).

§1977. Waiver of Requirements

The board may, in its discretion and upon the recommendation of the advisory committee, waive all or part of the continuing professional education required by these rules in favor of an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant who makes written request for such waiver to the board and evidences to the satisfaction of the board a permanent physical disability, illness, financial hardship, or other similar extenuating circumstances precluding the individual's satisfaction of the continuing professional education requirements.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3012(B) and R.S. 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1006 (September 1994).

§1979. Exceptions to Continuing Professional Education Requirements

The continuing professional education requirements prescribed by this subchapter as requisite to renewal of licensure shall not be applicable to:

1. an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant employed exclusively by, or at an institution operated by, any department or agency of the state of Louisiana; or
2. an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant who has held an initial Louisiana license on the basis of examination for a period of less than one year.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3012(B) and R.S. 37:1270(B)(6).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Medical Examiners, LR 20:1006 (September 1994).